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# THE WOODS-WISE CAMPER



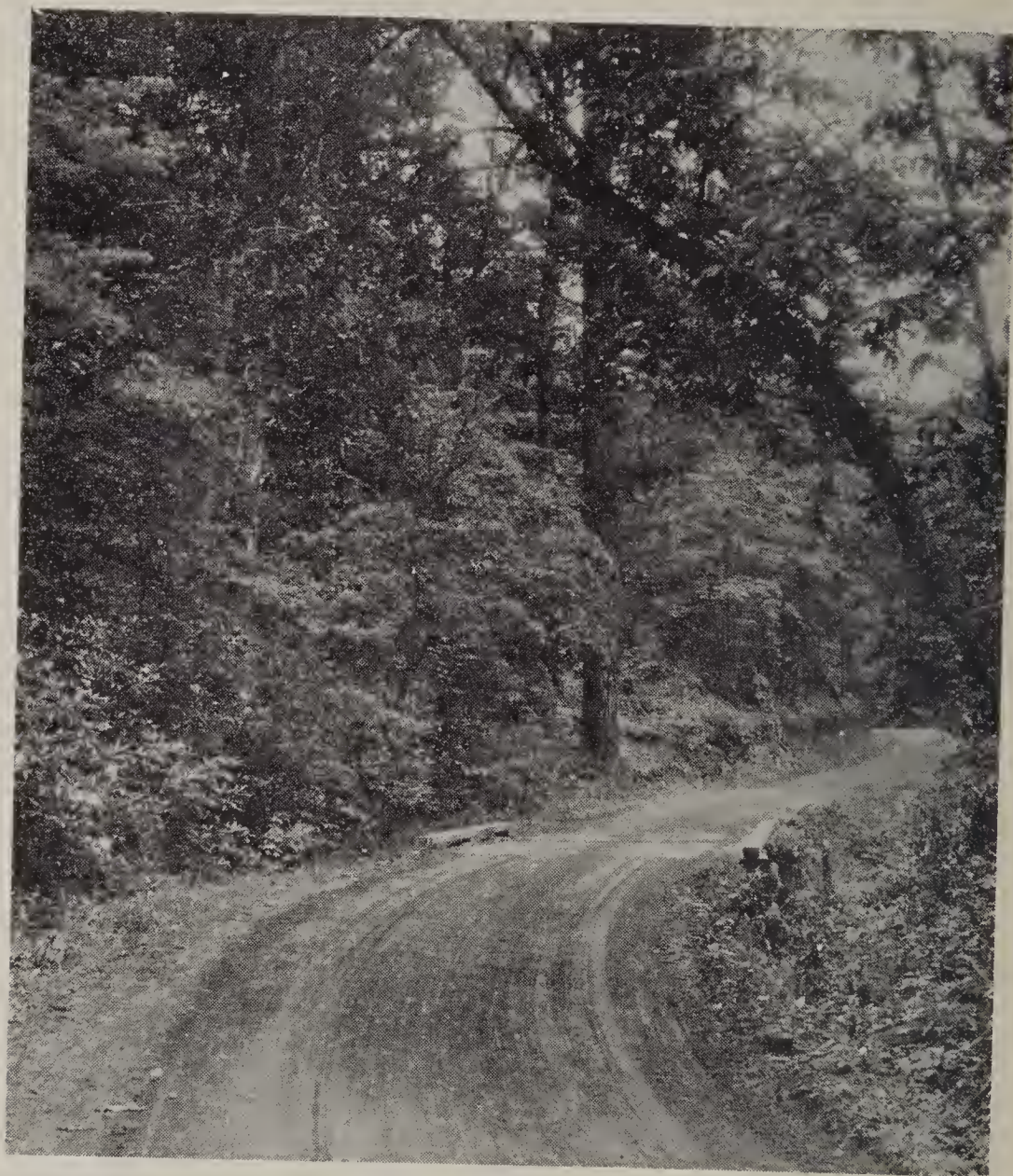
F-238416

'Tis all I'm wishing—old-fashioned fishing,  
And just a day in Nature's heart.

ISSUED BY  
THE REGIONAL FORESTER  
EASTERN NATIONAL  
FOREST REGION  
WASHINGTON - - D. C.



**THE NATIONAL FORESTS ARE YOUR PROPERTY. THEY PROVIDE WOOD FOR THIS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS; AN EVEN FLOW OF WATER FOR HOME, FARM, FACTORY, AND NAVIGATION; A HOME FOR WILD LIFE; AN INSPIRING PLAYGROUND; AND A DEMONSTRATION THAT GROWING TIMBER PAYS.**



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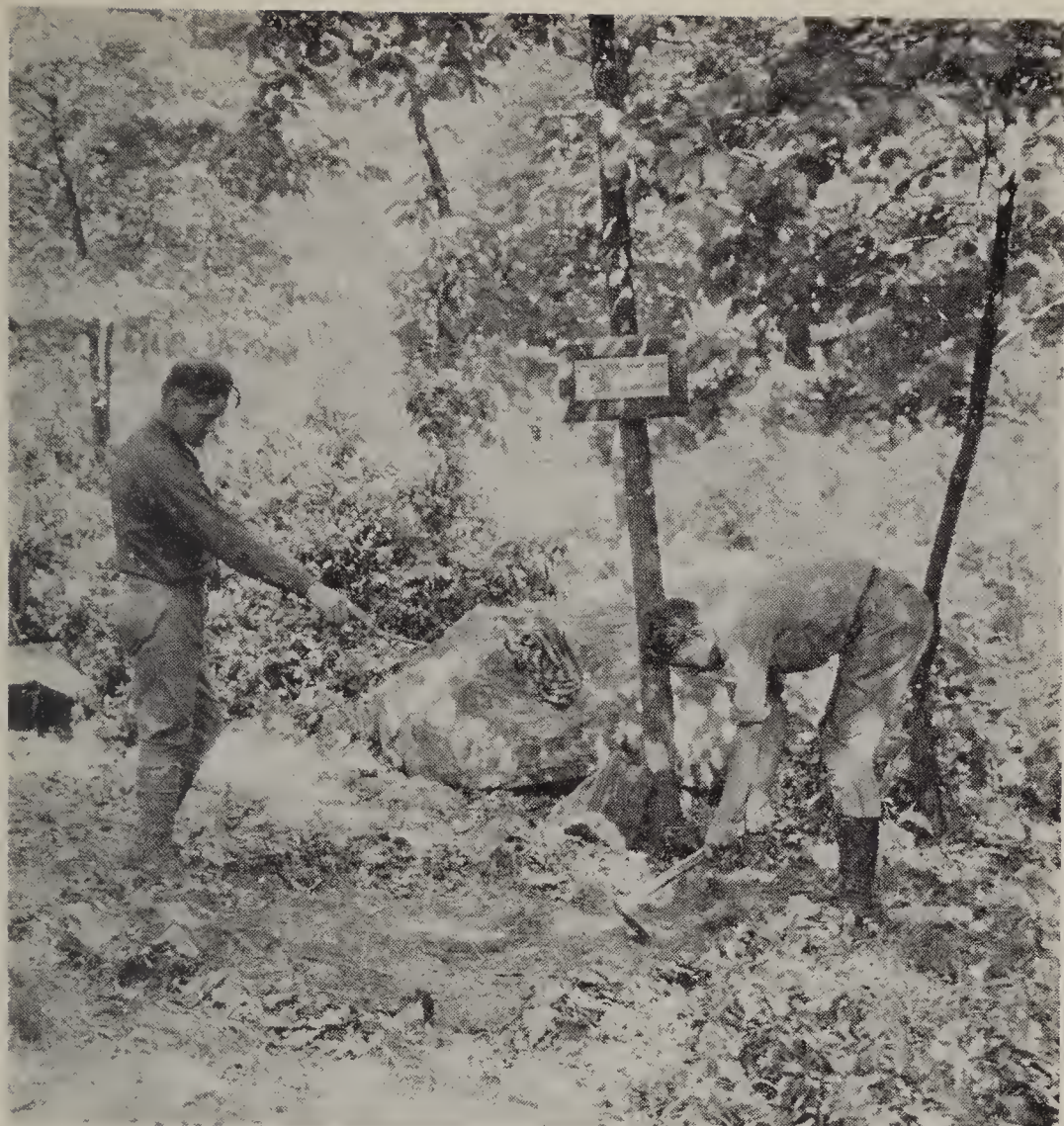
**Through the heart of the wood to the camper's haven**

## **HAPPINESS AND HEALTH FOR HIM WHO KNOWS**

The soft sheltering shade of the pine trees and spruce; the sweet-scented breath of the woodlands; the soothing soliloquy of the mountain stream; the clear, haunting call of the wood thrush; the quiet constancy of the towering hills; and the unlimited freedom to sleep or play, just as the fancy strikes—all these are the lot of one whose summer address is a camp in the national forests. There are happiness, health, and rest for him who knows and, knowing, obeys the immutable laws of the woodland.

**WE MUST KEEP FIRE OUT OF THE FORESTS**





### BUILDING THE CAMP FIRE

F-232955

Making the safe spot safer by clearing away leaves and litter

No camp is complete without the camp fire. The camper's fire code is easy to understand, simple to obey, but with severe penalties for evasion. One careless or thoughtless camper—and the beauty of the camp is destroyed. No one but the unwoods-wise tenderfoot builds the big roaring blaze. It has neither effective heat nor beauty. Besides, it is dangerous. The Indians knew, and built small fires, not against a log or a stump, not in the leaves or brush, but in the open, away from all inflammable material, and then only after clearing away all leaves and litter from a circle several feet in all directions from their fireplace.

### A FRIEND—THAT NEEDS WATCHING

For untold ages, the firebrand has been the symbol of treachery and destruction. The camper in the forest must know that there is no greater potential source of disaster than his harmless-looking camp fire. It is treachery personified. This little fire warms with its welcome heat; cheers with its dancing light; evokes the fragrant aromas from frying pan and coffee pot, but the minute one's back is turned may change its friendly attitude to that of a devouring demon to wreck the camp, and to turn a sylvan paradise into a roaring hell.

After you have selected the safest spot for your fire, after you have cleared away the leaves and litter all around the spot, after you have fore-armed yourself with a full supply of water within your reach, after every other precaution has been taken, keep your eye on it!



## KEEP YOUR EYE ON THAT FIRE!

Don't leave it for a second as long as there is a single coal of fire or tiny spark alive. The camp fire that is "dead" is responsible for as many disasters as the "gun that isn't loaded."

And, when you leave, whether permanently breaking camp or for a few moments' stroll through the woods, be sure you put the fire out—dead out. Stir the ashes and coals while drenching with water. Turn over the partly burned sticks and wet both sides thoroughly. Wet the ground all around the fire. If it has been necessary to start a fire where there is no water, bury all the ashes, sticks, and coal with mineral soil—earth—not leaf mold or duff, and pack the earth down firmly over the ashes.

The man who builds a camp fire without having equipped himself with a shovel with which to bury it is as foolish as the boatman who puts out to sea without an oar.



No camp is complete without the camp fire

F-238435

## ETHICS OF THE CAMP

There is nothing unclean in the mountains. The sun, the winds, and the rain effect perpetual sanitation. So, too, the master woodsman does his part to maintain Nature's sanitary laws. His camp ground is clean and, departing, he leaves it clean for his successor. He leaves no scattered sheets of paper, no broken boxes or bottles, no empty tin cans or fruit skins. These he buries or destroys, that he may enter whole-souled into the plans of Nature and say with pride, "No act of mine has violated Nature's laws of sanitation."

Don't abuse the hospitality of the woodlands by forgetting to clean up your camp





F-232966

**Be sure it's out. Pour on water and bury the ashes**

## **SO THAT EVERYONE MAY KNOW**

After the woodsman has mastered these necessary acts of caution himself, the battle is only partly won. There are other campers just around the bend in the road who have not learned their lesson. It is the duty of all master woodsmen to see that the uninitiated are properly instructed in woodcraft, for their own benefit and that of the woods we all enjoy. We must eliminate the careless camper as one of the most prevalent causes of forest fires and as a danger that can be entirely corrected by the great brotherhood of woodsmen themselves.

Federal and State laws impose severe penalties for failure completely to extinguish a camp fire in the national forests and in the privately-owned woodlands. But we should find it unnecessary to rely upon criminal prosecution to enforce proper care with the camp fire. It is second nature to true woodsmen, and a little real effort on their part to see that others are careful will go a long way toward keeping our forests green and productive.

**YOUR CAMP FIRE; build it on dirt, scrape all  
around it. PUT IT OUT!**





F-232953

**GOOD CAMP SANITATION**  
**Burying the papers and plates**

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## **SMOKER'S CODE**

**(For the Dry Season)**

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### **DANGEROUS TO SMOKE WHILE TRAVELING**

**ON FOREST, BRUSH, OR GRASS LAND**

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### **SMOKING IS SAFE ONLY**

1. While stopping in a safe place clear of all inflammable material, or
  2. During or right after a heavy rain, or
  3. Inside a vehicle equipped with ash receivers, on two-way highways, or
  4. Above timberline, and
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### **AFTER SMOKING**

**Put out all lighted material.**

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F-232965

Are you coming back next year? Then heed the woodsman's cautions

**1. MATCHES.**—Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.

**2. TOBACCO.**—Be sure that pipe ashes and cigar or cigarette stubs are dead before throwing them away. Never throw them into brush, leaves, or needles.

**3. MAKING CAMP.**—Before building a fire, scrape away all inflammable material from the spot to a distance of 5 feet. Dig a hole in the center and in it build your camp fire. Keep your fire small. Never build against trees, or logs, or near brush.

**4. BREAKING CAMP.**—Never break camp until your fire is out—dead out.

**5. BRUSH BURNING.**—Never burn slash or brush in windy weather, or while there is the slightest danger that the fire will get away.

**6. HOW TO PUT OUT A CAMP FIRE.**—Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet the ground around the fire. If you can't get water, stir in earth, and tread it down until packed tight over and around the fire. Be sure the last spark is dead.





**Babe in the Woods—Don't spoil his nursery**

F-219215

Detailed information concerning the national forests of the East can be secured from the nearest forest supervisor, or the regional forester, Eastern National Forest Region, Washington, D. C.

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## **HEADQUARTERS ADDRESSES OF NATIONAL FORESTS OF THE EASTERN REGION**

Alabama National Forest.....	Athens, Tenn.
Allegheny National Forest.....	Warren, Pa.
Cherokee National Forest.....	Athens, Tenn.
Choctawhatchee National Forest...	Pensacola, Fla.
Green Mountain Purchase Unit.....	Bennington, Vt.
Kisatchie Purchase Unit.....	Alexandria, La.
Luquillo National Forest.....	Rio Piedras, Porto Rico.
Monongahela National Forest.....	Elkins, W. Va.
Nantahala National Forest.....	Franklin, N. C.
Natural Bridge National Forest....	Lynchburg, Va.
Ocala National Forest.....	Lake City, Fla.
Osceola Purchase Unit.....	Lake City, Fla.
Ouachita National Forest.....	Hot Springs Natl. Pk., Ark.
Ozark National Forest.....	Russellville, Ark.
Pisgah National Forest.....	Asheville, N. C.
Shenandoah National Forest.....	Harrisonburg, Va.
Unaka National Forest.....	Bristol, Tenn.
White Mountain National Forest..	Laconia, N. H.





